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[Reports to the Surgeon-General United States Marine-Hospital Service.]

Yellow fever in Key West, Fla., and other places.

[Continued from last PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS.]

September 14: Assistant Surgeon McMullen, at Memphis, Tenn., is directed to assume temporary charge of the Service there and supervise the inspection of steamboats from New Orleans, using Acting Assistant Surgeon Laws for this purpose.

Assistant Surgeon McAdam reports for to-day 15 cases, 1 death.

September 15: Assistant Surgeon McAdam is authorized to charter the *Shamrock* for use.

Assistant Surgeon McAdam reports for this date 30 cases, 1 death.

Assistant Surgeon McMullen, at Memphis, reports as follows:

In pursuance of Bureau telegram of the 14th instant, in which I am directed to assume temporary command of the Service at this port and to supervise inspection of steamboats from New Orleans, I have the honor to state I have conferred with Dr. Haase, secretary of the city board of health, and the following plan has been agreed upon:

As it is difficult to find out when a New Orleans boat is to get here, Dr. Haase has promised to have the police notify me a few hours before a New Orleans boat is to dock and to see that a sufficient number of police officers are present to prevent any one landing before the inspection is made.

Previous to my arrival here the city board of health ordered that on and after September 13 no water craft coming from New Orleans or other port where yellow fever exists, would be allowed to land at Memphis without a clean bill of health from the United States Marine-Hospital Service. A previous order forbade the landing of household goods from New Orleans under any circumstances. A copy of this order has been forwarded to the Bureau from this office. Act. Asst. Surg. J. W. Laws has been instructed to make these inspections and, after seeing everyone on board, to give such certificate as he is able.

I am informed by Dr. Haase that New Orleans passengers and freight are occasionally transferred between New Orleans and Memphis to other boats for different points along the river, including Memphis, and in this way passengers reach here from New Orleans by other boats and are not inspected.

I understand that a very limited number of boats are now running between Memphis and New Orleans direct, owing to the low water.

September 16: Surgeon Carter reports from New Orleans:

One case same district yesterday. Magruder goes to Jackson to confer and arrange train inspection; he will be absent a week. Inspection of steamboats for the upper river points is being done; no passengers are taken. Boats put in good order, freight inspected, and if unsanitary, rejected. Schooner for quarantining portion of the Mississippi coast disinfected and held. No restriction on merchandise from wholesale district needed and none imposed.

Assistant Surgeon Trotter reports from Port Tampa that a house-to-house inspection of Port Tampa City and Tampa is negative, and nothing suspicious has been reported from St. Petersburg.

Assistant Surgeon McAdam reports for to-day 38 cases, 1 death.

September 17: Assistant Surgeon McAdam reports for to-day 5 cases, 1 death.

Assistant Surgeon Trotter reports condition in detention camp at Port Tampa City unchanged.

September 17 and 18: Assistant Surgeon McAdam reports for the two days, 54 cases and 2 deaths.

September 18: Surgeon Carter reports that Surgeon Magruder is arranging train inspection—one complete system from the Mississippi River to the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. * * * He reports 1 new case of fever—that freight traffic is practically unobstructed, save that no freight originating in New Orleans is received in Texas. New Orleans freight allowed passage through Texas and freight through New Orleans received in Texas. Very few unnecessary restrictions; he meets Sanders to-morrow to simplify train-inspection service; everything running smoothly.

September 18: Surgeon McIntosh, at Mobile, is directed to report by wire to Surgeon Carter, at New Orleans, for orders. Duty will be to operate train inspection from outside.

September 19: Assistant Surgeon McAdam reports to-day 31 cases and 1 death.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Smith reports admitted to detention camp at Tortugas 44 from Key West and 33 from contractor's gang at Tortugas.

Surgeon Carter reports 2 new cases of yellow fever in New Orleans in the same house in the upper residence portion. Weather very unfavorable for the spread of the fever.

Assistant Surgeon Trotter reports no change in the situation and that the camp at Port Tampa City will be closed Thursday (21st) noon, as the cases will then have been ten days under observation. All well in camp and if nothing develops the state quarantine against Port Tampa and Port Tampa City will be raised on the 21st.

Surgeon Pettus at Cape Charles is informed that his recommendation to allow ships from New Orleans, with no sickness aboard, to coal in quarantine—no person from shore going aboard, is approved.

U. S. S. Nezinscot disinfected on account of yellow fever.

SOUTH ATLANTIC QUARANTINE STATION, *September 9, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that at least 2 of the 21 persons who arrived here on the U. S. S. *Nezinscot* give a rather clear history of yellow fever.

The vessel has been ordered to proceed to Norfolk, Va., after clearance here.

In view of the foregoing facts * * * have disinfected the vessel and dunnage with steam and formaldehyd.

Respectfully, yours,

HUGH S. CUMMING,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.